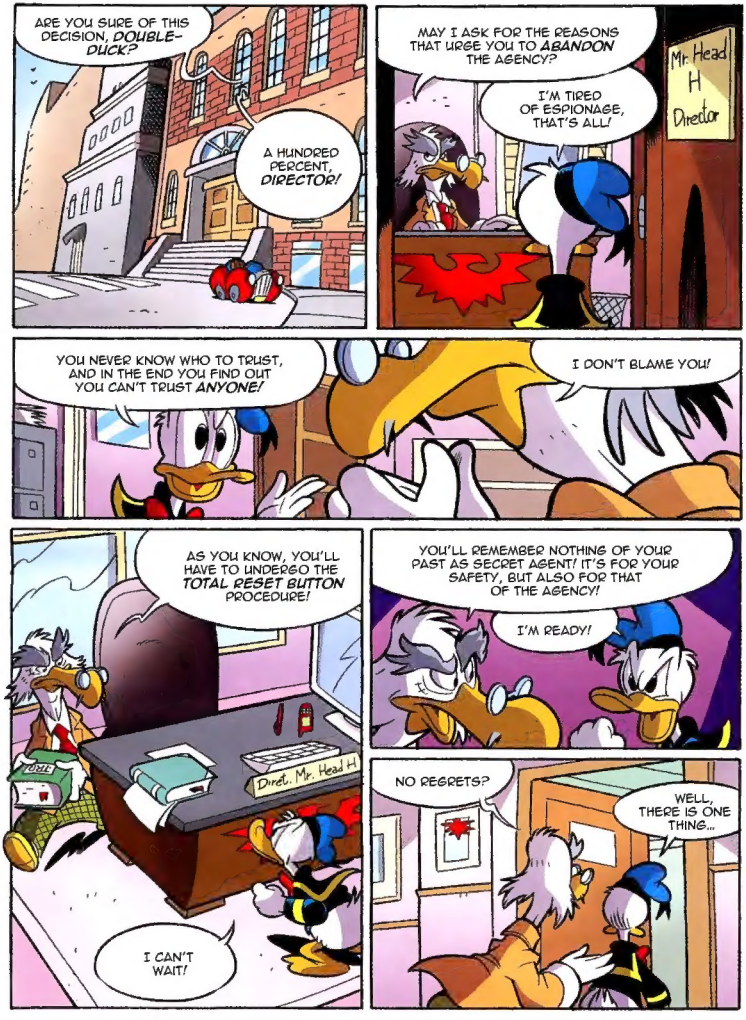
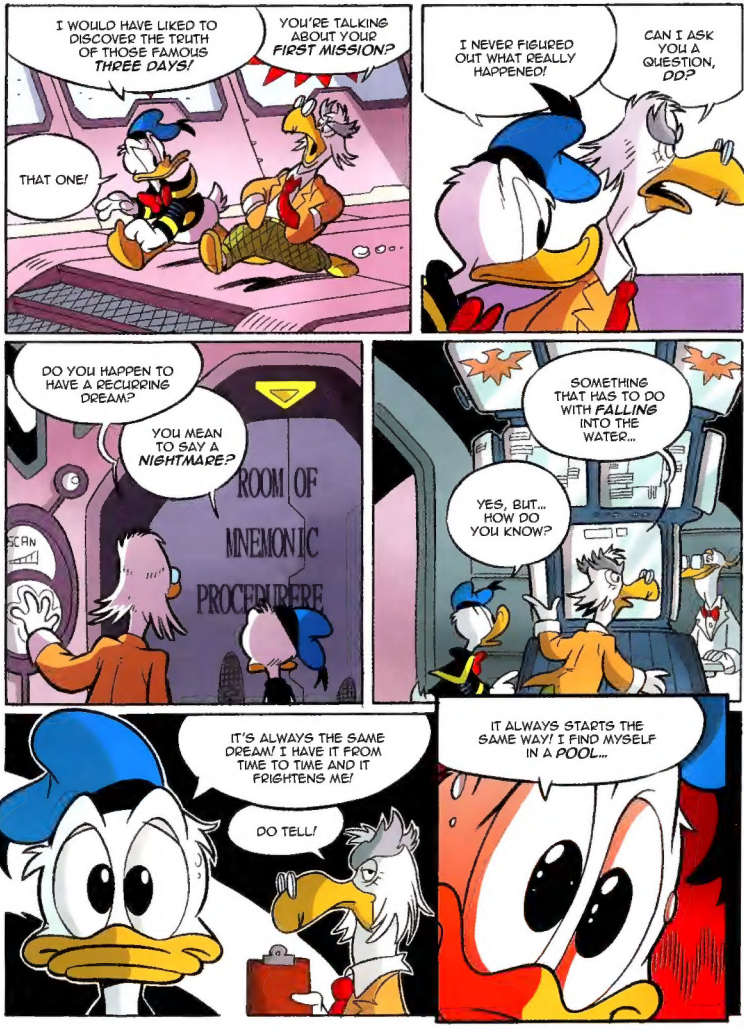
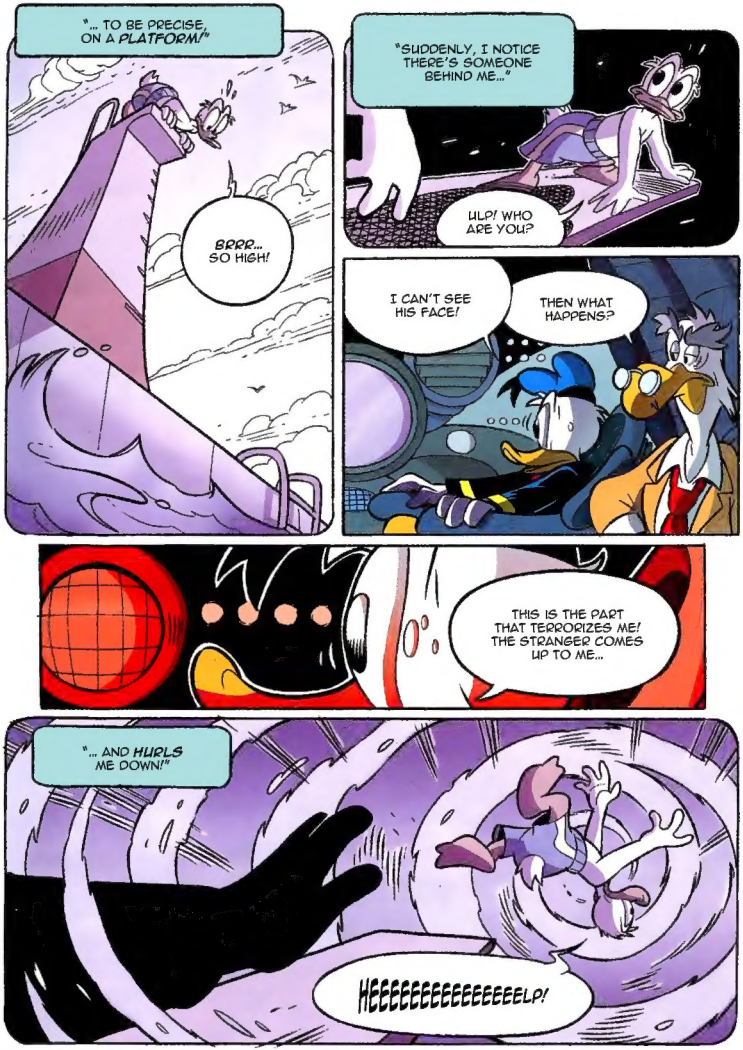
Testo di **Fausto Vitaliano** - Disegni di **Lorenzo Pastrovicchio**
Supervisione colore di **Max Monteduro**

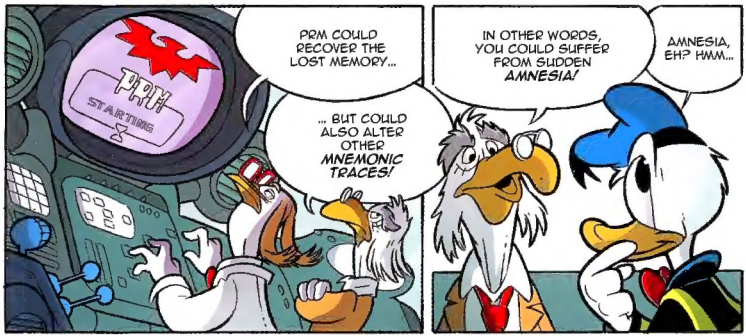
"THIS LAST MONTH, THE AGENCY HAS CALLED ME EVERY DAY..."
BIRO-BIRO BIRO-BIRO
"... AND I'VE NEVER ANSWERED!"
"BUT THEY KEEP CALLING ME..."
BIRO-BIRO BIRO-BIRO
"... AND I KEEP NOT ANSWERING!"
AGENCY CALLING
ACCEPT
I THINK THE TIME HAS COME TO TALK TO THEM IN PERSON...
"... AND EXPLAIN HOW THINGS ARE!"
HEY, DONALD! YOUR PHONE'S RINGING!
THANKS, JOE!

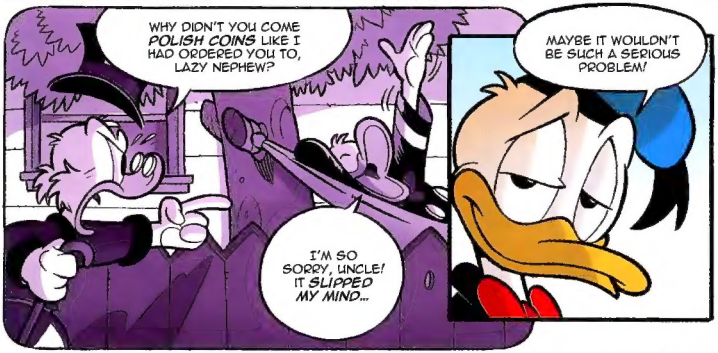

ARE YOU SURE OF THIS DECISION, DOUBLE-DUCK?
A HUNDRED PERCENT, DIRECTOR!
MAY I ASK FOR THE REASONS THAT URGE YOU TO ABANDON THE AGENCY?
I'M TIRED OF ESPIONAGE, THAT'S ALL!
Mr. Head H Director
YOU NEVER KNOW WHO TO TRUST, AND IN THE END YOU FIND OUT YOU CAN'T TRUST ANYONE!
I DON'T BLAME YOU!
AS YOU KNOW, YOU'LL HAVE TO UNDERGO THE TOTAL RESET BUTTON PROCEDURE!
Direct. Mr. Head H
I CAN'T WAIT!
YOU'LL REMEMBER NOTHING OF YOUR PAST AS SECRET AGENT! IT'S FOR YOUR SAFETY, BUT ALSO FOR THAT OF THE AGENCY!
I'M READY!
NO REGRETS?
WELL, THERE IS ONE THING...

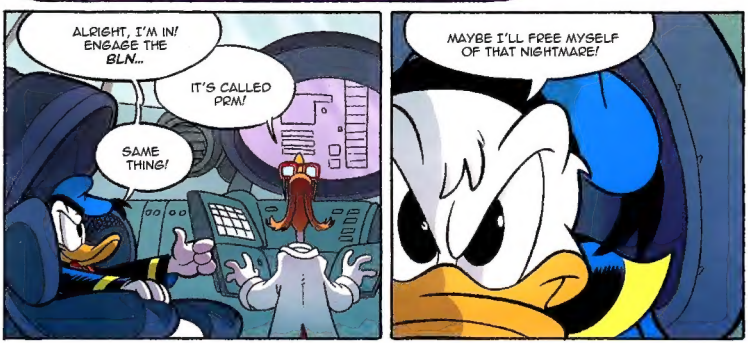

I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO DISCOVER THE TRUTH OF THOSE FAMOUS THREE DAYS!
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT YOUR FIRST MISSION?
THAT ONE!
I NEVER FIGURED OUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED!
CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION, DD?
DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE A RECURRING DREAM?
YOU MEAN TO SAY A NIGHTMARE?
ROOM OF MNEMONIC PROCEDURERE
SCAN
SOMETHING THAT HAS TO DO WITH FALLING INTO THE WATER...
YES, BUT... HOW DO YOU KNOW?
IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME DREAM! I HAVE IT FROM TIME TO TIME AND IT FRIGHTENS ME!
DO TELL!
IT ALWAYS STARTS THE SAME WAY! I FIND MYSELF IN A POOL...

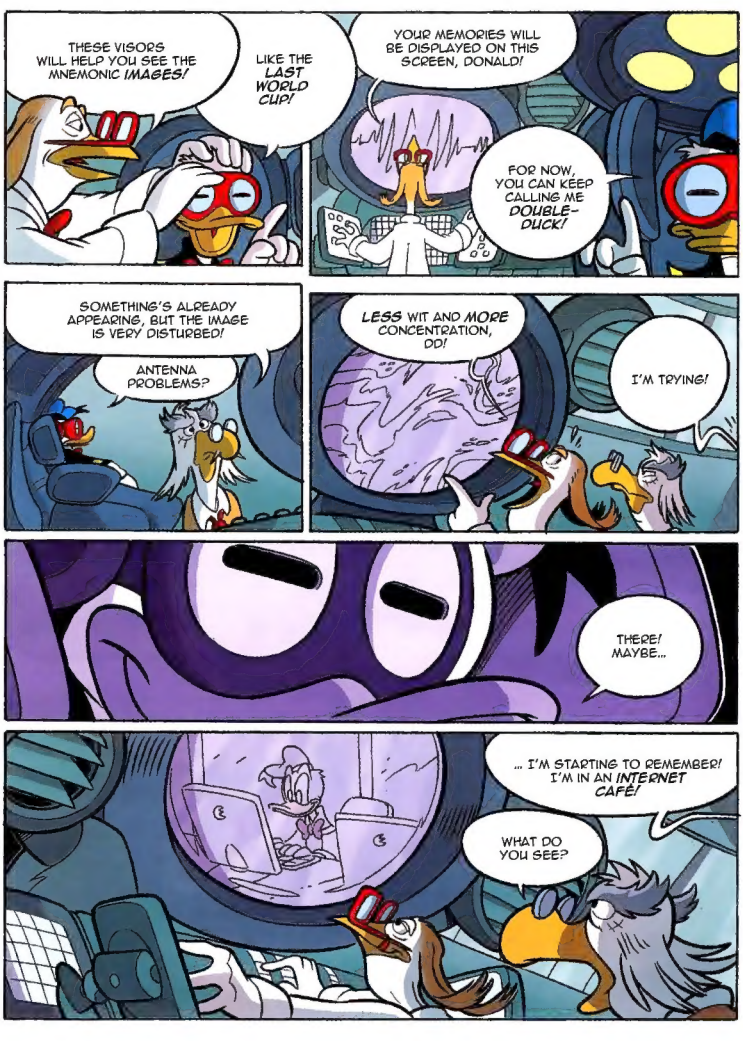

"... TO BE PRECISE, ON A PLATFORM!"
BRRR... SO HIGH!
"SUDDENLY, I NOTICE THERE'S SOMEONE BEHIND ME..."
ULP! WHO ARE YOU?
I CAN'T SEE HIS FACE!
THEN WHAT HAPPENS?
THIS IS THE PART THAT TERRORIZES ME! THE STRANGER COMES UP TO ME...
"... AND HURLS ME DOWN!"
HEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEELP!

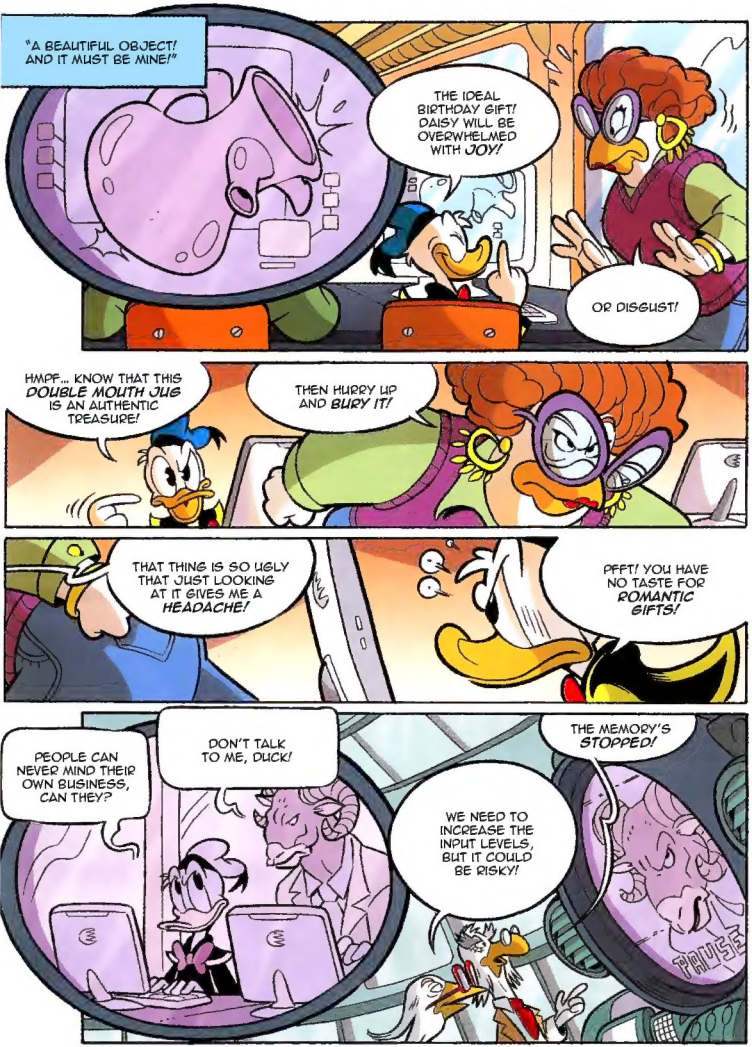
AT THAT POINT, I WAKE UP!
IT'S AN EXTREMELY CLEAR DREAM, DOUBLE-DUCK!
SIZMO, TECHNICAL MANAGER OF THE AGENCY
THE NIGHTMARE IS TIED TO YOUR FIRST MISSION!
THEN YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO ME!
WE ONLY KNOW YOU SUFFERED A GREAT SHOCK!
ARE NONE OF THESE MACHINES CAPABLE OF FIXING MY MEMORY?
YOUR MEMORY HAS BEEN ALTERED BY THAT SHOCK, DD! THERE IS A POSSIBILITY, BUT IT'S RISKY!
WHAT'S THAT?
MAYBE...
... OR MAYBE NOT!
AND IT WORKS?
PROTOCOL PRM, PARTIAL RESTORE MEMORY!
BANKRUPT PRM
EXPLAIN YOURSELVES!


PRM COULD RECOVER THE LOST MEMORY...
... BUT COULD ALSO ALTER OTHER MNEMONIC TRACES!
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU COULD SUFFER FROM SUDDEN AMNESIA!
AMNESIA, EH? HMM...

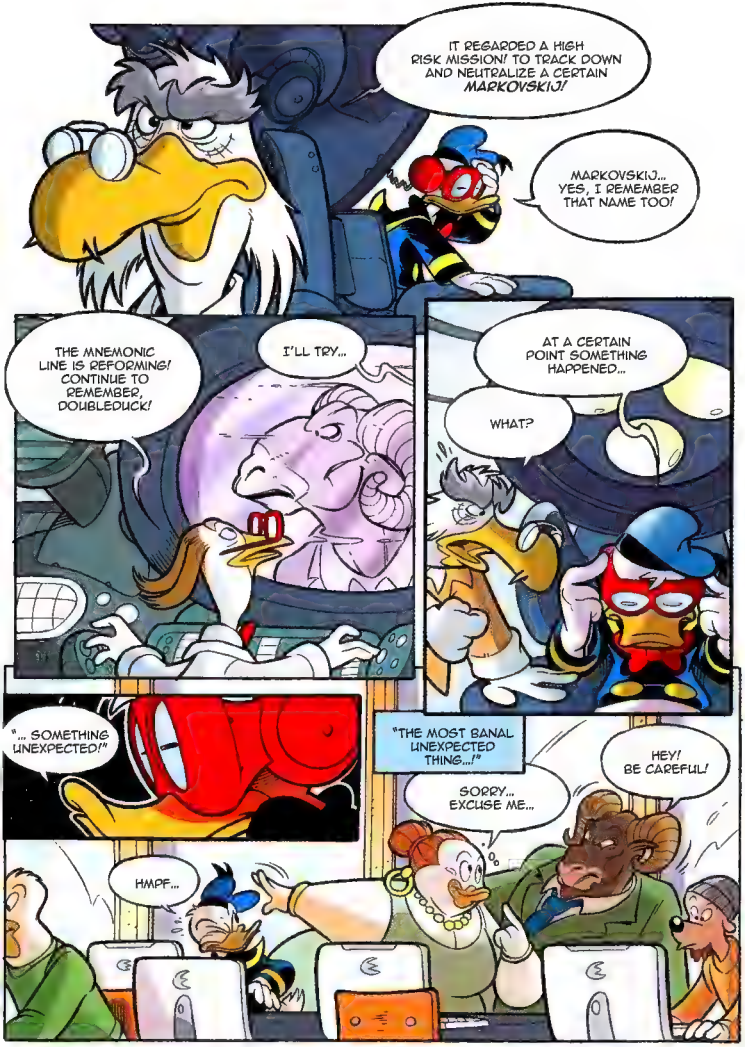

WHY DIDN'T YOU COME POLISH COINS LIKE I HAD ORDERED YOU TO, LAZY NEPHEW?
I'M SO SORRY, UNCLE! IT SLIPPED MY MIND...
MAYBE IT WOULDN'T BE SUCH A SERIOUS PROBLEM!


ALRIGHT, I'M IN! ENGAGE THE BLN...
IT'S CALLED PRM!
SAME THING!
MAYBE I'LL FREE MYSELF OF THAT NIGHTMARE!


THESE VISORS WILL HELP YOU SEE THE MNEMONIC *IMAGES!*
LIKE THE *LAST WORLD CUP!*
YOUR MEMORIES WILL BE DISPLAYED ON THIS SCREEN, DONALD!
FOR NOW, YOU CAN KEEP CALLING ME *DOUBLE-DUCK!*
SOMETHING'S ALREADY APPEARING, BUT THE IMAGE IS VERY DISTURBED!
ANTENNA PROBLEMS?
LESS WIT AND *MORE* CONCENTRATION, DD!
I'M TRYING!
THERE! MAYBE...
... I'M STARTING TO REMEMBER! I'M IN AN *INTERNET CAFÉ!*
WHAT DO YOU SEE?


"A BEAUTIFUL OBJECT! AND IT MUST BE MINE!"
THE IDEAL BIRTHDAY GIFT! DAISY WILL BE OVERWHELMED WITH JOY!
OR DISGUST!
HMPF... KNOW THAT THIS DOUBLE MOUTH JUG IS AN AUTHENTIC TREASURE!
THEN HURRY UP AND BURY IT!
THAT THING IS SO UGLY THAT JUST LOOKING AT IT GIVES ME A HEADACHE!
PFFT! YOU HAVE NO TASTE FOR ROMANTIC GIFTS!
PEOPLE CAN NEVER MIND THEIR OWN BUSINESS, CAN THEY?
DON'T TALK TO ME, DUCK!
WE NEED TO INCREASE THE INPUT LEVELS, BUT IT COULD BE RISKY!
THE MEMORY'S STOPPED!
PAUSE

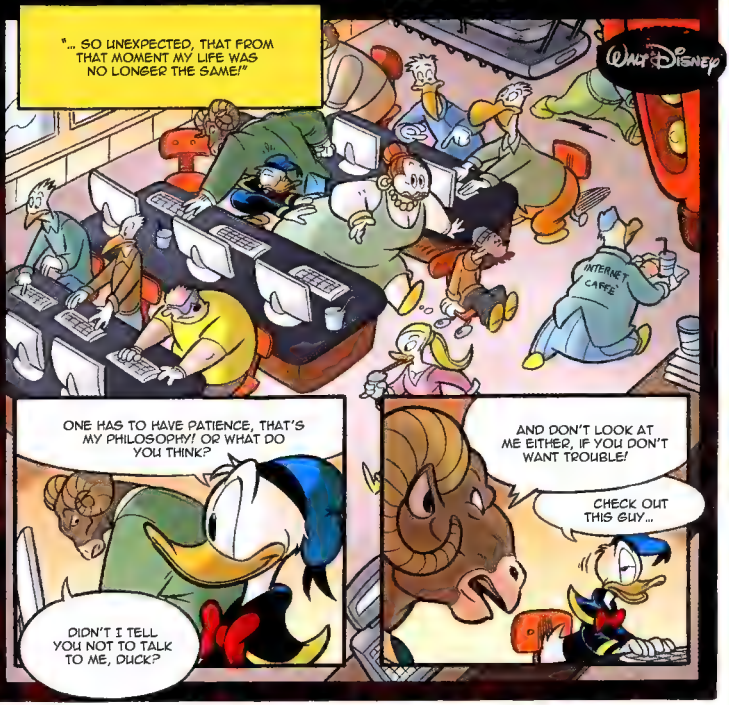
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, DD?
GO ALL THE WAY! WHO'S THE GUY I MET AT THE INTERNET CAFÉ?
HIS NAME'S CARVER, J. CARVER! HAD YOU EVER SEEN HIM?
NO, I WAS ONLY PARTICIPATING IN AN AUCTION ON DUCKBAY!
CARVER HAD BEEN CONTACTED FOR A MISSION THAT NONE OF OUR AGENTS WERE ABLE TO COMPLETE!
THE AGENCY HAD BEEN RECENTLY FORMED, THE BIG BOSS DIDN'T EVEN EXIST! WE NEEDED A... EHEM... EXTERNAL COLLABORATOR!
YOU MEAN TO SAY CARVER WAS AN AGENT FOR HIRE?
"YES, THAT IS A RATHER PRECISE DEFINITION FOR SOMEONE LIKE HIM!"
WE NEVER MET HIM IN PERSON!
HE COMMUNICATED WITH US VIA E-MAIL FROM PUBLIC LOCATIONS!

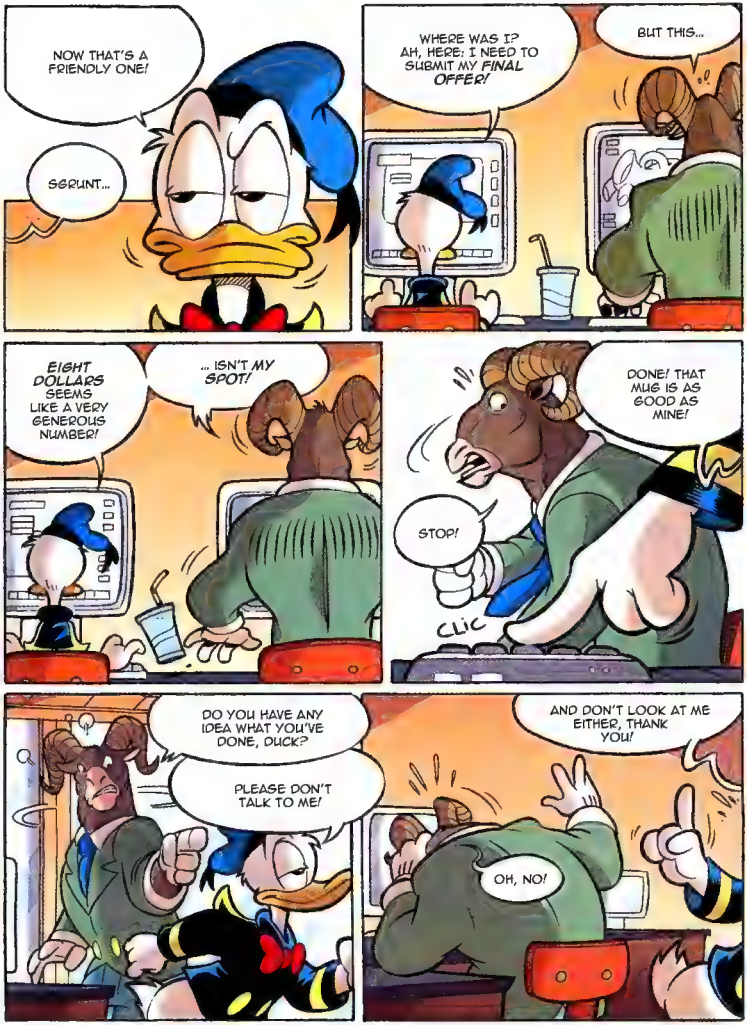

IT REGARDED A HIGH RISK MISSION! TO TRACK DOWN AND NEUTRALIZE A CERTAIN MARKOVSKIJ!
MARKOVSKIJ... YES, I REMEMBER THAT NAME TOO!
THE MNEMONIC LINE IS REFORMING! CONTINUE TO REMEMBER, DOUBLEDUCK!
I'LL TRY...
AT A CERTAIN POINT SOMETHING HAPPENED...
WHAT?
"... SOMETHING UNEXPECTED!"
"THE MOST BANAL UNEXPECTED THING...!"
SORRY... EXCUSE ME...
HEY! BE CAREFUL!
HMPF...

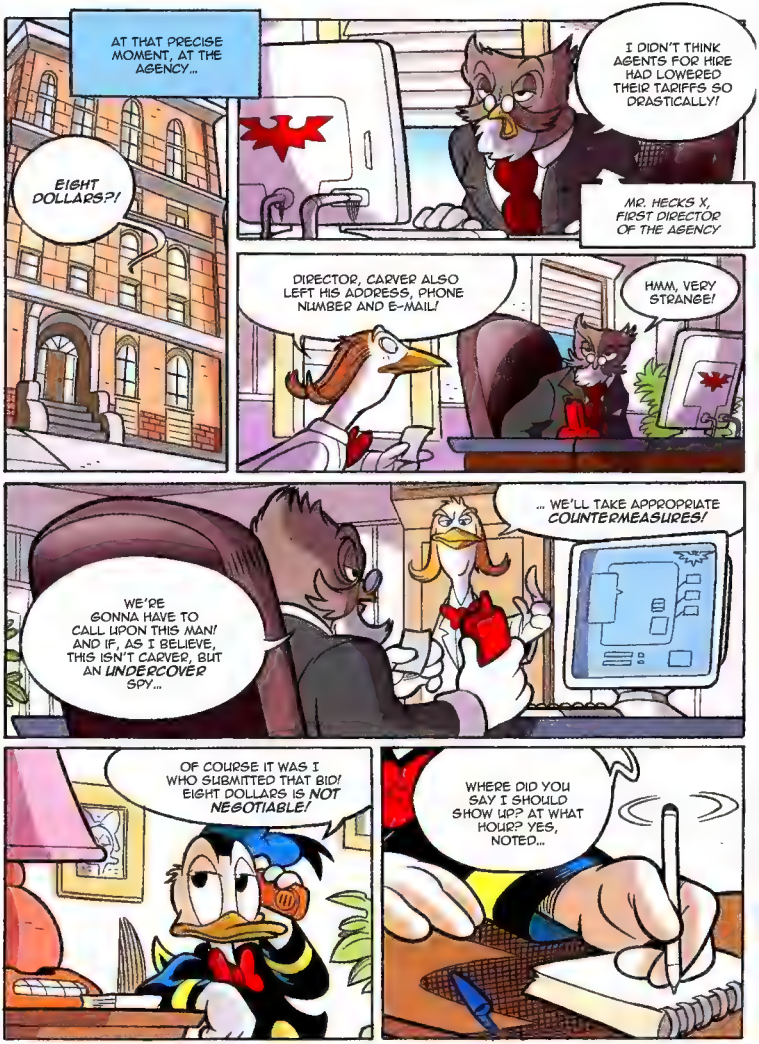
DOUBLEDUCK

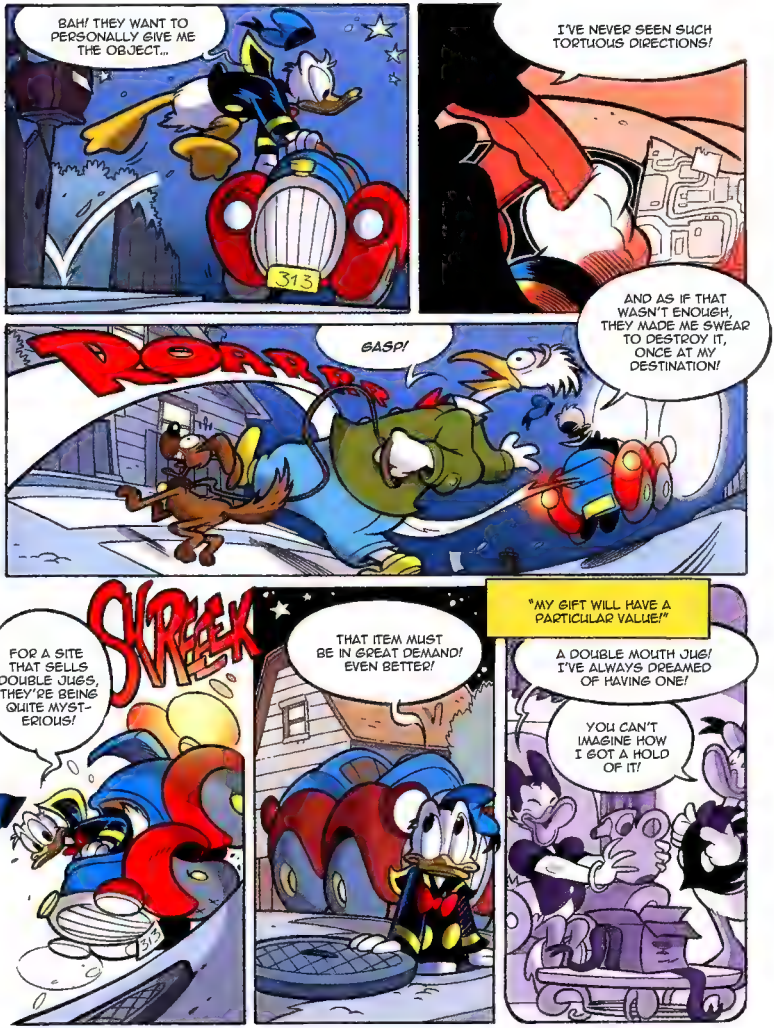
una missione lunga tre giorni

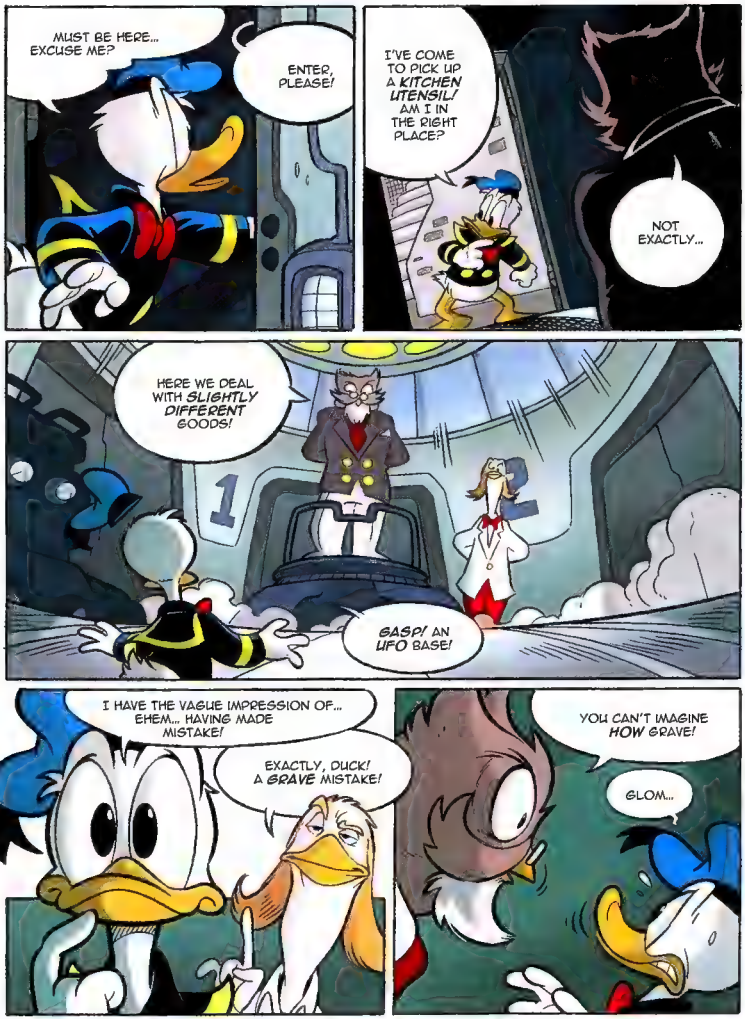
episodio 1

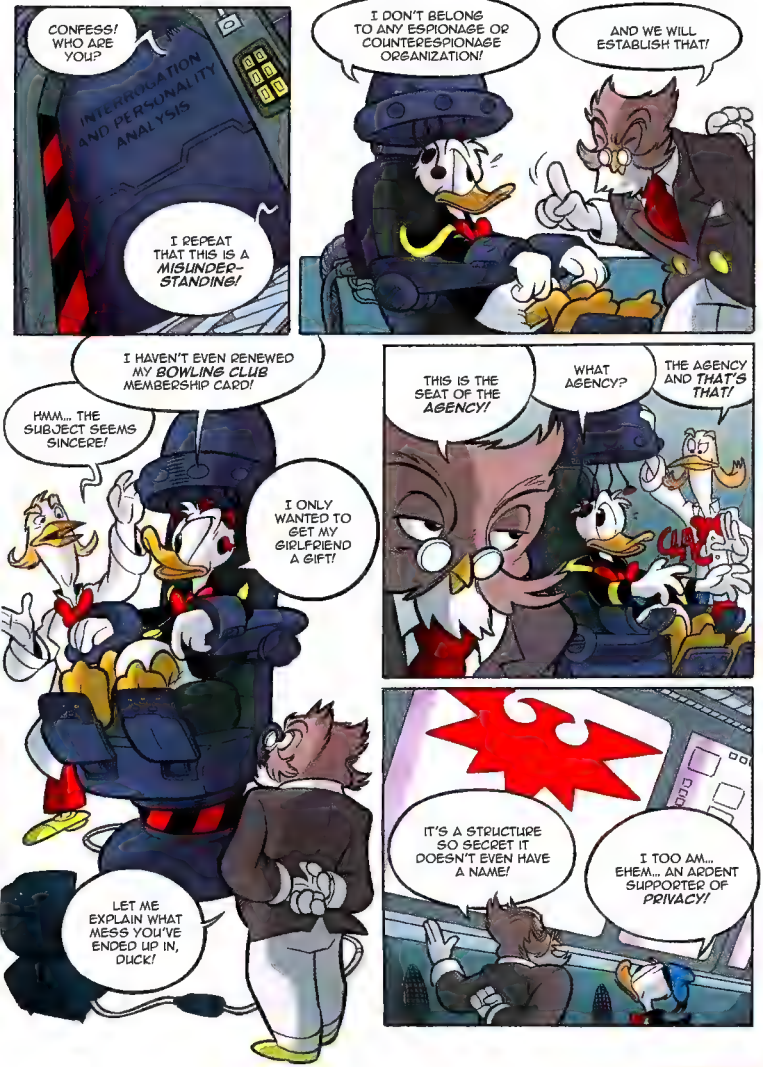

"... SO UNEXPECTED, THAT FROM THAT MOMENT MY LIFE WAS NO LONGER THE SAME!"
WALT DISNEY
INTERNET CAFFÈ
ONE HAS TO HAVE PATIENCE, THAT'S MY PHILOSOPHY! OR WHAT DO YOU THINK?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO TALK TO ME, DUCK?
AND DON'T LOOK AT ME EITHER, IF YOU DON'T WANT TROUBLE!
CHECK OUT THIS GUY...

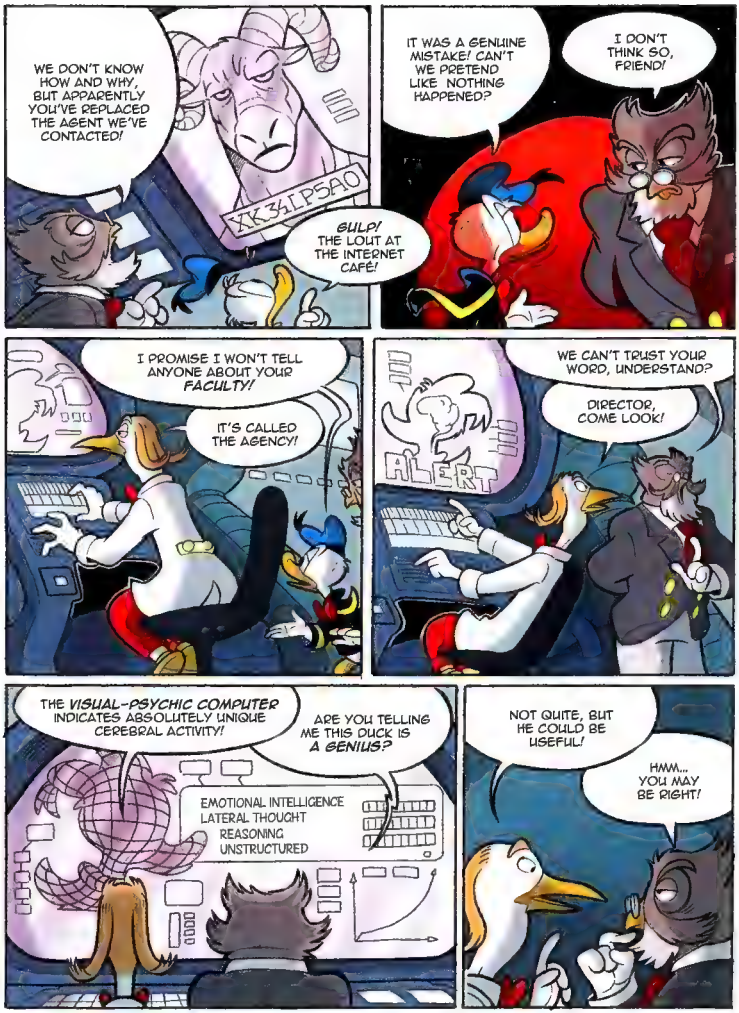

NOW THAT'S A FRIENDLY ONE!
SGRUNT...
WHERE WAS I? AH, HERE: I NEED TO SUBMIT MY *FINAL OFFER!*
BUT THIS...
EIGHT DOLLARS SEEMS LIKE A VERY GENEROUS NUMBER!
... ISN'T *MY SPOT!*
DONE! THAT MUG IS AS GOOD AS MINE!
STOP!
CLIC
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU'VE DONE, DUCK?
PLEASE DON'T TALK TO ME!
AND DON'T LOOK AT ME EITHER, THANK YOU!
OH, NO!


AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT, AT THE AGENCY...
EIGHT DOLLARS?!
I DIDN'T THINK AGENTS FOR HIRE HAD LOWERED THEIR TARIFFS SO DRASTICALLY!
MR. HECKS X, FIRST DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY
DIRECTOR, CARVER ALSO LEFT HIS ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER AND E-MAIL!
HMM, VERY STRANGE!
WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO CALL UPON THIS MAN! AND IF, AS I BELIEVE, THIS ISN'T CARVER, BUT AN UNDERCOVER SPY...
... WE'LL TAKE APPROPRIATE COUNTERMEASURES!
OF COURSE IT WAS I WHO SUBMITTED THAT BID! EIGHT DOLLARS IS NOT NEGOTIABLE!
WHERE DID YOU SAY I SHOULD SHOW UP? AT WHAT HOUR? YES, NOTED...


BAH! THEY WANT TO PERSONALLY GIVE ME THE OBJECT...
313
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH TORTUOUS DIRECTIONS!
AND AS IF THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, THEY MADE ME SWEAR TO DESTROY IT, ONCE AT MY DESTINATION!
RORRR
GASP!
SKREEK
FOR A SITE THAT SELLS DOUBLE JUGS, THEY'RE BEING QUITE MYSTERIOUS!
THAT ITEM MUST BE IN GREAT DEMAND! EVEN BETTER!
"MY GIFT WILL HAVE A PARTICULAR VALUE!"
A DOUBLE MOUTH JUG! I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF HAVING ONE!
YOU CAN'T IMAGINE HOW I GOT A HOLD OF IT!


MUST BE HERE... EXCUSE ME?
ENTER, PLEASE!
I'VE COME TO PICK UP A KITCHEN UTENSIL! AM I IN THE RIGHT PLACE?
NOT EXACTLY...
HERE WE DEAL WITH SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT GOODS!
GASP! AN UFO BASE!
I HAVE THE VAGUE IMPRESSION OF... EHEM... HAVING MADE MISTAKE!
EXACTLY, DUCK! A GRAVE MISTAKE!
YOU CAN'T IMAGINE HOW GRAVE!
GLOM...

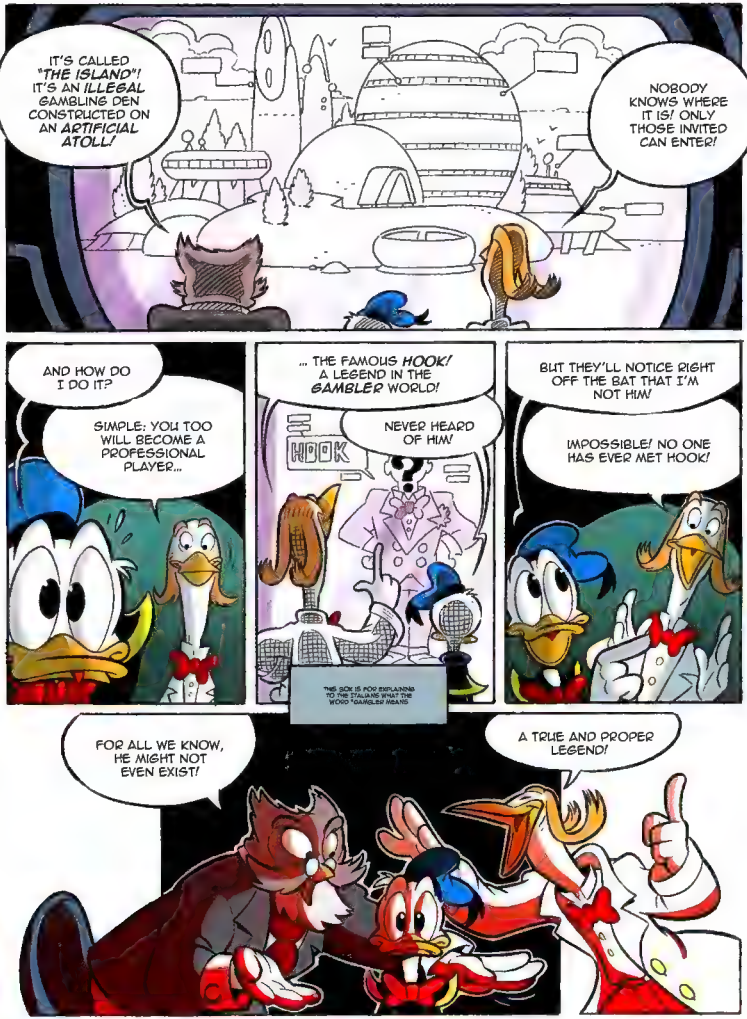

CONFESS! WHO ARE YOU?
INTERROGATION AND PERSONALITY ANALYSIS
I REPEAT THAT THIS IS A MISUNDER-STANDING!
I DON'T BELONG TO ANY ESPIONAGE OR COUNTERESPIONAGE ORGANIZATION!
AND WE WILL ESTABLISH THAT!
I HAVEN'T EVEN RENEWED MY BOWLING CLUB MEMBERSHIP CARD!
HMM... THE SUBJECT SEEMS SINCERE!
I ONLY WANTED TO GET MY GIRLFRIEND A GIFT!
LET ME EXPLAIN WHAT MESS YOU'VE ENDED UP IN, DUCK!
THIS IS THE SEAT OF THE AGENCY!
WHAT AGENCY?
THE AGENCY AND THAT'S THAT!
IT'S A STRUCTURE SO SECRET IT DOESN'T EVEN HAVE A NAME!
I TOO AM... EHEM... AN ARDENT SUPPORTER OF PRIVACY!

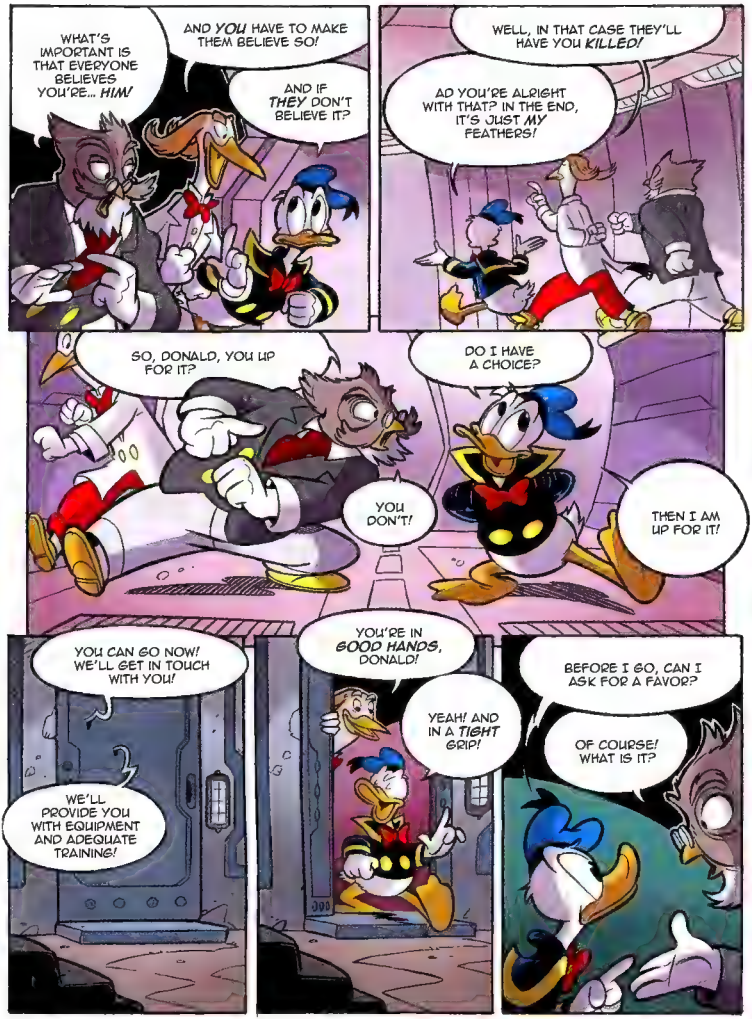

WE DON'T KNOW HOW AND WHY, BUT APPARENTLY YOU'VE REPLACED THE AGENT WE'VE CONTACTED!
XK3JLPSAO
BULP! THE LOUT AT THE INTERNET CAFÉ!
IT WAS A GENUINE MISTAKE! CAN'T WE PRETEND LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED?
I DON'T THINK SO, FRIEND!
I PROMISE I WON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT YOUR FACULTY!
IT'S CALLED THE AGENCY!
ALERT
WE CAN'T TRUST YOUR WORD, UNDERSTAND?
DIRECTOR, COME LOOK!
THE VISUAL-PSYCHIC COMPUTER INDICATES ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE CEREBRAL ACTIVITY!
ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS DUCK IS A GENIUS?
EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE
LATERAL THOUGHT
REASONING
UNSTRUCTURED
NOT QUITE, BUT HE COULD BE USEFUL!
HMM... YOU MAY BE RIGHT!

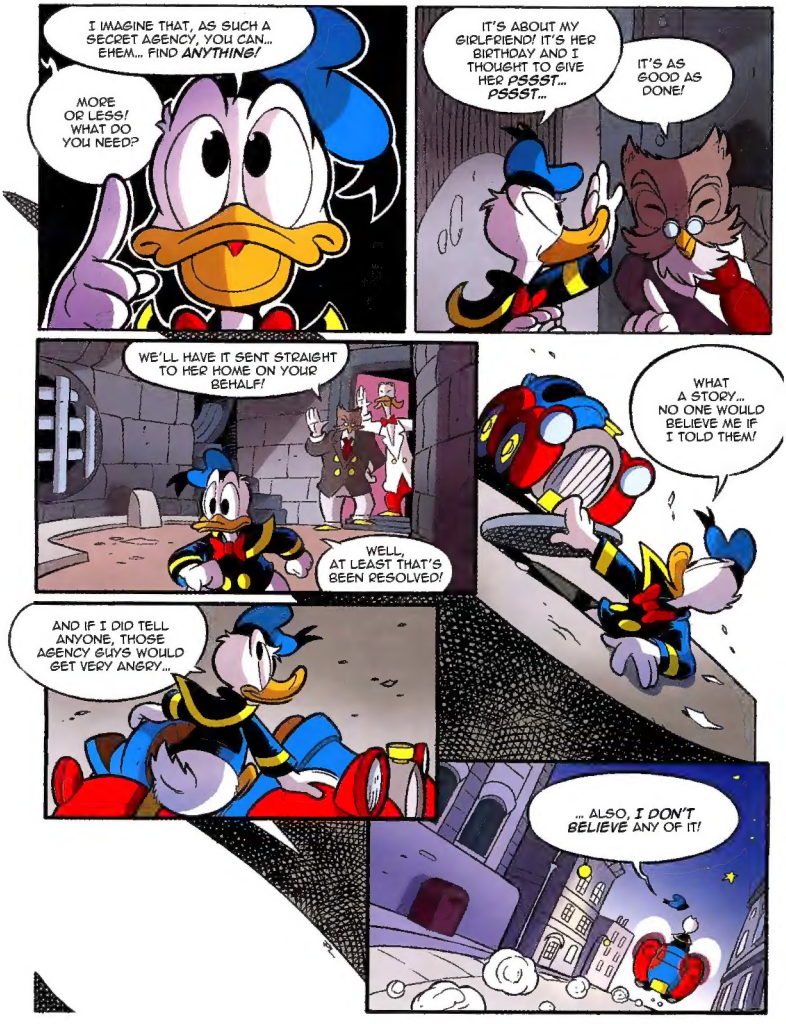
LET'S SUPPOSE I MAKE YOU A PROPOSAL, DONALD DUCK!
WHAT KIND OF PROPOSAL?
SOMETHING THAT HELPS YOU GET OUT OF THIS UNCOMFORTABLE SITUATION! YOU'D HAVE TO... PSSST... PSSST... AND PSSST...
EEEEEH?!
DON'T TELL US YOU WOULDN'T LIKE TO BECOME A SECRET AGENT!
I'M NOT EVEN THINKING ABOUT IT!
OUR ALTITUDINAL COMPUTER STATES THAT YOU'RE PERFECT FOR THIS JOB!
OBVIOUSLY THAT LIAR DOESN'T WORK!
SEND IT BACK TO THE FACTORY AND GET YOUR MONEY BACK!
ALRIGHT, FORGET IT!
THIS MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO RESORT TO PLAN B!
AND... WHAT WOULD THAT BE?
TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF OUTSIDERS
CAN'T YOU GUESS?

AND SO...
WE'RE VERY PLEASED THAT YOU'VE SPONTANEOUSLY ACCEPTED!
HOW COULD I SAY NO TO SUCH A KIND INVITATION?
MEETING ROOM
SOMETIMES THERE ARE THINGS THAT EVEN HAPPEN TO A CHARACTER IN A COMIC...
HERE'S THE MISSION THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY CARVER AND THAT'S BECOME YOURS!
CAN I AT LEAS! KNOW WHO THIS MARKOVSKIJ IS?
MISSION MARKOVSKIJ
HE'S A PROFESSIONAL GAMBLER, BUT ABOVE ALL A CARDSHARPER! THIS IS HIS DOSSIER!
MARKOVSKIJ TOP SECRET
AND WHAT DOES A CHEATER HAVE TO DO WITH ESPIONAGE?
I'LL EXPLAIN!

"THE SUBJECT HAS COME INTO POSSESSION OF A LARGE SUM..."
INSIDE HERE IS A MILLION DOLLARS, MARKOVSKIJ! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!
CONSIDER IT DONE!
WE DON'T KNOW WHO'S FINANCED HIM AND WHAT THE GOAL IS!
THAT'S NOT SO DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND!
BEING A CHEATER, HE'S BEEN ASKED TO GO TO A CASINO AND *MULTIPLY* THE NUMBER!
THAT'S RIGHT, DONALD! YOU'RE A SHARP ONE!
AND YOU WANT TO KNOW *WHO* AND *WHAT* THAT MONEY IS FOR, BECAUSE YOU THINK THERE' SOMETHING SINISTER UNDERNEATH!
EXACTLY! AND HERE'S WHERE YOU COME IN!
YOU WILL GO TO THE CASINO AND INVESTIGATE!
AND WHERE WOULD THAT BE?
WE DON'T HAVE THE FAINTEST IDEA!
HOW COME?

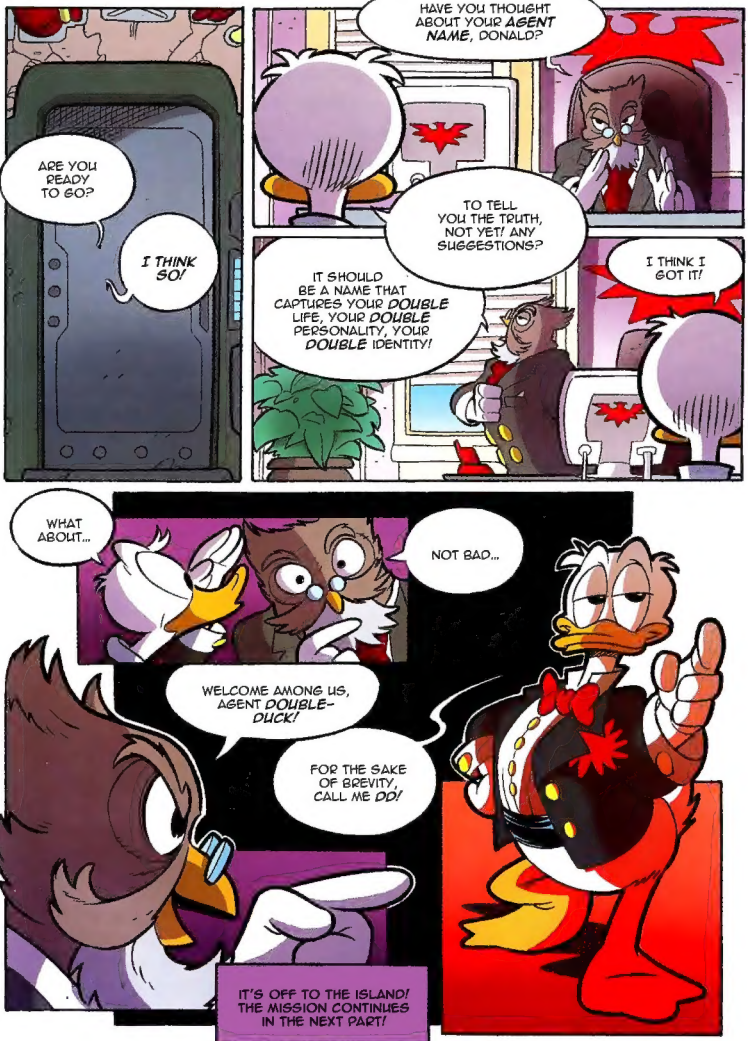

IT'S CALLED "THE ISLAND"! IT'S AN ILLEGAL GAMBLING DEN CONSTRUCTED ON AN ARTIFICIAL ATOLL!
NOBODY KNOWS WHERE IT IS! ONLY THOSE INVITED CAN ENTER!
AND HOW DO I DO IT?
SIMPLE: YOU TOO WILL BECOME A PROFESSIONAL PLAYER...
... THE FAMOUS HOOK! A LEGEND IN THE GAMBLER WORLD!
HOOK
NEVER HEARD OF HIM!
THIS BOX IS FOR EXPLAINING TO THE ITALIANS WHAT THE WORD "GAMBLER" MEANS
BUT THEY'LL NOTICE RIGHT OFF THE BAT THAT I'M NOT HIM!
IMPOSSIBLE! NO ONE HAS EVER MET HOOK!
FOR ALL WE KNOW, HE MIGHT NOT EVEN EXIST!
A TRUE AND PROPER LEGEND!


WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT EVERYONE BELIEVES YOU'RE... HIM!
AND YOU HAVE TO MAKE THEM BELIEVE SO!
AND IF THEY DON'T BELIEVE IT?
WELL, IN THAT CASE THEY'LL HAVE YOU KILLED!
AD YOU'RE ALRIGHT WITH THAT? IN THE END, IT'S JUST MY FEATHERS!
SO, DONALD, YOU UP FOR IT?
DO I HAVE A CHOICE?
YOU DON'T!
THEN I AM UP FOR IT!
YOU CAN GO NOW! WE'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU!
WE'LL PROVIDE YOU WITH EQUIPMENT AND ADEQUATE TRAINING!
YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS, DONALD!
YEAH! AND IN A TIGHT GRIP!
BEFORE I GO, CAN I ASK FOR A FAVOR?
OF COURSE! WHAT IS IT?


I IMAGINE THAT, AS SUCH A SECRET AGENCY, YOU CAN... EHEM... FIND ANYTHING!
MORE OR LESS! WHAT DO YOU NEED?
IT'S ABOUT MY GIRLFRIEND! IT'S HER BIRTHDAY AND I THOUGHT TO GIVE HER PSSST... PSSST...
IT'S AS GOOD AS DONE!
WE'LL HAVE IT SENT STRAIGHT TO HER HOME ON YOUR BEHALF!
WELL, AT LEAST THAT'S BEEN RESOLVED!
WHAT A STORY... NO ONE WOULD BELIEVE ME IF I TOLD THEM!
AND IF I DID TELL ANYONE, THOSE AGENCY GUYS WOULD GET VERY ANGRY...
... ALSO, I DON'T BELIEVE ANY OF IT!

THE NEXT MORNING...
IS THAT YOU, DAISY? HAVE YOU ALREADY RECEIVED MY GIFT? DO YOU LIKE IT?
WHY DON'T YOU COME BY, SO I CAN TELL WHAT I THINK IN PERSON?
ON MY WAY!
THIS IS BETTER THAN I EXPECTED!
ARGH!
313
ROARR!
SHE'LL WANT TO HUG ME AND SMOTHER ME WITH KISSES OF GRATITUDE!
SKR EEEK
HERE I AM!
YEAH, HERE YOU ARE!
AND HERE'S WHAT I THINK OF THIS HORRIFYING EYESORE!
CRASH
OUCH! I'D SAY THE CONCEPT IS VERY CLEAR!

SLAM
I IMAGINE THE LIFE OF A SECRET AGENT IS COMPLICATED...
... BUT THAT OF A BOY-FRIEND ALSO INVOLVES CERTAIN RISKS!
BI-BIP
BI-BIP
LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME!
SMS
CONVOCATION MISSION MARKOVSKIJ: H. 7.00"
AT LEAST I WON'T HAVE TO MAKE EXCUSES TO DAISY...
313
ROAAAAAR
"... SINCE SHE'S NOT GONNA WANT TO SEE ME FOR AT LEAST THREE DAYS!"
AAAAAH!


ARE YOU READY TO GO?
I THINK SO!
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR AGENT NAME, DONALD?
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, NOT YET! ANY SUGGESTIONS?
IT SHOULD BE A NAME THAT CAPTURES YOUR DOUBLE LIFE, YOUR DOUBLE PERSONALITY, YOUR DOUBLE IDENTITY!
I THINK I GOT IT!
WHAT ABOUT...
NOT BAD...
WELCOME AMONG US, AGENT DOUBLE-DUCK!
FOR THE SAKE OF BREVITY, CALL ME DD!
IT'S OFF TO THE ISLAND! THE MISSION CONTINUES IN THE NEXT PART!

END OF PART ONE